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**DRAFT REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS
ON ITS IN-SESSIONAL MEETING HELD DURING THE FORTIETH SESSION
OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, 1-18 JUNE 1993**

Rapporteur: Mr. Thomas STELZER (Austria)

Addendum

CHAPTER III. COUNTRY, INTERCOUNTRY AND GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

A. Africa

2. Extensions of country programmes

(continued)

Madagascar

1. The Assistant Administrator and Director, RBA, introduced the request for a second one-year extension of the fourth country programme for Madagascar (DP/CP/4/EXTENSION II) involving IPF resources of \$18.3 million.
2. The Representative of Madagascar explained that a second one-year extension was necessary in view of the political transitional period, during which democratic institutions were being established. It would help to consolidate efforts at national capacity-building, support the Social Action Plan and combat poverty. He commended the excellent working relations between Madagascar and UNDP.
3. Several delegations endorsed the request for the extension. It was, however, suggested that goals could best be achieved if resources were not scattered and were more focused than previously. Financing should be secured before beginning implementation and donor coordination should be strengthened. Limitations imposed by budget constraints were noted.

4. One delegation stated that the progress of reform was difficult to judge during an ongoing process of democratization. UNDP-sponsored activities should concentrate on capacity-building and the role of technical cooperation should be examined in connection with the scheduled programme review. The experience with national execution had been less than positive, given the lack of capacity. Donor coordination was carried out on an ad hoc basis and was issue-specific. The strong presence of the World Bank in the country was noted; tighter coordination was needed as well as a greater role for UNDP in promoting donor dialogue. The use of the human development index (HDI) on a regional basis in Madagascar was commended.

5. The Assistant Administrator and Director, RBA, commented that UNDP would continue to play a coordinating role in the country and would further enhance its capacity to do so.

6. The Committee recommended that the Council approve the second extension of the fourth country programme for Madagascar.

Kenya

7. The Chairman of the Standing Committee introduced the request for a second one-year extension of the fifth country programme for Kenya (DP/CP/KEN/5/EXTENSION II) involving IPF resources of \$9 million.

8. While endorsing the request, delegations recommended that the sixth country programme should concentrate on such issues as democratization, human rights, good government and accountability. It should be linked to the implementation of economic reform and the transformation of economic structures. The emphasis on income-generation was commended although it was noted that recent evaluations showed that there had been only limited results so far. There was also support for the other areas of focus, particularly human resource development and small enterprise development. Activities should concentrate on the potential for generating income for the poor in rural as well as urban areas. Doubt was expressed on the potential impact of credit schemes unless targeted for women. Appreciation was expressed for UNDP efforts at donor coordination in Kenya.

9. The Committee recommended that the Council approve the second extension of the fifth country programme for Kenya.

Togo

10. The Director General of Planning of Togo introduced the request for a second one-year extension of the fourth country programme for Togo (DP/CP/TOG/EXTENSION II). He spoke of the difficulties encountered during the democratization process over the past two years which had delayed the elaboration of the fifth country programme. He stressed that the fifth country programme would be pivotal in assisting the country, following its elections.

11. While supporting the request for an extension, it was noted by one delegation that implementation would be difficult if the political situation did not improve, particularly in light of an ongoing strike and suspension of bilateral aid by the principal donors.

12. The Assistant Administrator and Director, RBA, replied that UNDP was well aware of the complexities in the country and their impact on project implementation. UNDP had therefore decided to reduce the amount of the second extension for 1993 from \$4.5 million to \$2.5 million.

13. The Committee recommended that the Governing Council approve the second extension of the fourth country programme for Togo.

3. Interim report on the implementation of the fifth country programme for Rwanda

14. The Committee had before it for consideration the report by the Administrator (DP/1993/64) submitted in response to Governing Council decision 93/4, section VIII, of 19 February 1993, in which the Council requested the Administrator to present an interim report on the implementation of the country programme for Rwanda and on the impact which the evolution of the general context of the country might have had on implementation. It also recommended that UNDP should envisage organizing a round-table conference for donors on the humanitarian aspects of the emergency situation in Rwanda and the needs of displaced persons.

15. The Assistant Administrator and Director, RBA, introduced the report and briefly traced developments in Rwanda since February 1993.

16. The Representative of Rwanda thanked UNDP and the donor community for the assistance to his country during difficult times.

17. A number of delegations expressed satisfaction with the realistic and flexible approach UNDP was taking in the country, particularly the assistance to national reconciliation and the peace process, and endorsed the reorientation of the country programme as proposed by the Administrator to take into account the needs of displaced persons and to combat poverty. The increase of the programme reserve indicated the commitment of UNDP to handle the evolving situation in the country efficiently. They commended the frequent donor consultations conducted by the Resident Representative and suggested that the coordination role of UNDP be strengthened. The timing of the humanitarian round-table conference scheduled for June 1993 was, however, questioned. One delegation encouraged UNDP to exercise restraint in the area of management and public administration in view of the political uncertainties. Support was expressed for making more money available and in particular for using funds for development.

18. The Resident Representative stated that conditions in the country had improved and it had become possible for donors to provide humanitarian assistance and to enter the demilitarized zone. He noted that the donors would meet the following week to set a date for the donor round-table conference.

19. The Committee recommended that the Council approve amendments to the fifth country programme for Rwanda, as contained in the report of the Administrator (DP/1993/64).
